University of Northern Iowa and Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council STEM Scale-Up Student Survey

Information and Parent Notification

Dear Parent:

Your child is taking part in a program funded by the State of Iowa to increase interest and achievement in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM). To find out about the ways this and similar programs may impact interest in STEM among youth, we are conducting a survey of youth. The survey is sponsored by the Iowa Governor's STEM Advisory Council. The content of the survey includes questions related to youth interest in STEM and interest in someday pursuing a STEM career. Iowa will use the information to improve and enhance STEM programs for youth. The student survey is being managed by the University of Northern Iowa.

There is very little or no risk to your child for participating. Your child's privacy is protected, student names or other identifying information are not collected on the student surveys, and any reports of findings are for large groups of students combined without the names of schools being mentioned. Your child will not receive any special benefits for taking part in the survey, although results may help similar children in the future. We would like all children that take part in Scale-Up programs to respond to the survey as this enhances the quality of the findings, but participation is voluntary. Your child is free to stop answering questions at any point in the survey, as well as decide not to participate at all. No action will be taken against you or your child if your child does not participate.

If you have questions about the project, you can contact Dr. Erin Heiden, University of Northern Iowa, at 319-273-2105. You can also contact the office of the Human Participants Coordinator, University of Northern Iowa, at 319-273-6148, for answers to questions about the rights of research participants and the participant review process.

If you do not wish for your child to take part in this survey, please inform your child's teacher or Erin Heiden at the University of Northern Iowa.